

SENATE, No. 1303

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Permits voter registration up to 14 days before election.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** changing the voter registration deadline, and amending
2 various parts of the statutory law.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. R.S.19:12-7 is amended to read as follows:

8 19:12-7. a. The county board in each county shall cause to be
9 published in a newspaper or newspapers which, singly or in
10 combination, are of general circulation throughout the county, a
11 notice containing the information specified in subsection b. hereof,
12 except for such of the contents as may be omitted pursuant to
13 subsection c. or d. hereof. Such notice shall be published once
14 during the 30 days next preceding the day fixed for the closing of
15 the registration books for the primary election, once during the
16 calendar week next preceding the week in which the primary
17 election for the general election is held, once during the 30 days
18 next preceding the day fixed for the closing of the registration
19 books for the general election, and once during the calendar week
20 next preceding the week in which the general election is held.

21 b. Such notice shall set forth:

22 (1) For the primary election for the general election:

23 (a) That a primary election for making nominations for the
24 general election, for the selection of members of the county
25 committees of each political party, and in each presidential year for
26 the selection of delegates and alternates to national conventions of
27 political parties, will be held on the day and between the hours
28 provided for by or pursuant to this Title.

29 (b) The place or places at which and hours during which a
30 person may register, the procedure for the transfer of registration,
31 and the date on which the books are closed for registration or
32 transfer of registration.

33 (c) The several State, county, municipal and party offices or
34 positions to be filled, or for which nominations are to be made, at
35 such primary election.

36 (d) The existence of registration and voting aids, including: (i)
37 the availability of registration and voting instructions at places of
38 registration as provided under R.S.19:31-6; and (ii), if available, the
39 accessibility of voter information to the deaf by means of a
40 telecommunications device.

41 (e) The availability of assistance to a person unable to vote due
42 to blindness, disability or inability to read or write.

43 (f) In the case of the notice published during the calendar week
44 next preceding the week in which the primary election is held, that
45 a voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved within the same

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 county without (i) filing, on or before the **【21st】 14th** day preceding
2 the election, a notice of change of residence with the commissioner
3 of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of the
4 municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the election,
5 (ii) returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by the
6 commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been
7 sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner of
8 registration of the voter's change of address within the county shall
9 be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to vote in the
10 primary election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the
11 district in which the voter resides on the day of the election. The
12 notice shall further provide that the voter may contact the county
13 commissioner of registration or municipal clerk or may view
14 polling place location information on the Division of Elections
15 website to determine the proper polling place location for the voter.

16 (2) For the general election:

17 (a) That a general election will be held on the day and between
18 the hours provided for by or pursuant to this Title and, where
19 applicable, shall include annual school elections and annual fire
20 district elections held on that date.

21 (b) The place or places at which and hours during which a
22 person may register, the procedure for transfer of registration, and
23 the date on which the books are closed for registration or transfer of
24 registration.

25 (c) The several State, county and municipal offices, and where
26 applicable, school board offices and fire district offices to be filled,
27 notice of any school district propositions to be submitted to the
28 people and, except as provided in R.S.19:14-33 of this Title as to
29 publication of notice of any Statewide proposition directed by the
30 Legislature to be submitted to the people, the State, county,
31 municipal and fire district public questions to be voted upon at such
32 general election.

33 (d) The existence of registration and voting aids, including: (i)
34 the availability of registration and voting instructions at places of
35 registration as provided under R.S.19:31-6; and (ii) the accessibility
36 of voter information to the deaf by means of a telecommunications
37 device.

38 (e) The availability of assistance to a person unable to vote due
39 to blindness, disability or inability to read or write.

40 (f) In the case of the notice published during the calendar week
41 next preceding the week in which the general election is held, that a
42 voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved within the same
43 county without (i) filing, on or before the **【21st】 14th** day preceding
44 the election, a notice of change of residence with the commissioner
45 of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of the
46 municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the election,
47 (ii) returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by the
48 commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been

1 sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner of
2 registration of the voter's change of address within the county shall
3 be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to vote in the
4 general election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the
5 district in which the voter resides on the day of the election. The
6 notice shall further provide that the voter may contact the county
7 commissioner of registration or municipal clerk or may view
8 polling place location information on the Division of Elections
9 website to determine the proper polling place location for the voter.

10 (3) For a school election:

11 (a) The day and time thereof,

12 (b) The offices, if any, to be filled at the election,

13 (c) The substance of any public question to be submitted to the
14 voters thereat,

15 (d) That a voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved
16 within the same county without (i) filing, on or before the **[21st]**
17 14th day preceding the election, a notice of change of residence
18 with the commissioner of registration of the county or the municipal
19 clerk of the municipality in which the voter resides on the day of
20 the election, (ii) returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter
21 by the commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice
22 has been sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the
23 commissioner of registration of the voter's change of address within
24 the county shall be permitted to correct the voter's registration and
25 to vote in the school election by provisional ballot at the polling
26 place of the district in which the voter resides on the day of the
27 election,

28 (e) That if the voter has any questions as to where to vote on the
29 day of the election, the voter may contact the county commissioner
30 of registration or municipal clerk or may view polling place
31 location information on the Division of Elections website to
32 determine the proper polling place location for the voter; and

33 (f) Such other information as may be required by law.

34 c. If such publication is made in more than one newspaper, it
35 shall not be necessary to duplicate in the notice published in each
36 such newspaper all the information required under this section, so
37 long as:

38 (1) The municipal officers or party positions to be filled, or
39 nominations made, or municipal public questions to be voted upon
40 by the voters of any municipality, shall be set forth in at least one
41 newspaper having general circulation in such municipality;

42 (2) All offices to be filled, or nominations made therefor, or
43 public questions to be voted upon, by the voters of the entire State
44 or of the entire county shall be set forth in a newspaper or
45 newspapers which, singly or in combination, have general
46 circulation throughout the county;

47 (3) Information relating to nominations and elections in each
48 Legislative District comprised in whole or part in the county, shall

1 be published in at least a newspaper or newspapers which singly or
2 in combination, have general circulation in every municipality of
3 the county which is comprised in such legislative district.

4 d. Such part or parts of the original notices as published which
5 pertain to day of registration or primary election which has occurred
6 shall be eliminated from such notice in succeeding insertions.

7 e. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999, c.232.)

8 f. The cost of publishing the notices required by this section
9 shall be paid by the respective counties, unless otherwise provided
10 for by law.

11 g. Notices required to be published or posted pursuant to this
12 section shall set forth a general description of the contents of the
13 voter information notice provided for in section 1 of P.L.2005,
14 c.149 (C.19:12-7.1), how the notice may be viewed or obtained
15 prior to the day of an election, and that the notice will be posted in
16 each polling place on the day of an election.

17 (cf: P.L.2019, c.170, s.1)

18
19 2. Section 6 of P.L.1991, c.249 (C.19:15-18.3) is amended to
20 read as follows:

21 6. Any person whose name does not appear on a challenge list
22 prepared by the superintendent of elections of the county but who is
23 challenged and denied the right to vote on the day of a municipal,
24 primary, general, or special election by a duly authorized challenger
25 or by a member of a district board of elections, may apply to a
26 Superior Court judge sitting at the county seat for permission to
27 vote. No papers need be filed; the court shall entertain oral
28 applications. The challenged voter may appear pro se or with
29 counsel. The challenger or the member of the district board, as the
30 case may be, may appear or be represented by counsel. The
31 challenged voter shall be permitted to state by oath or affirmation
32 the facts which the voter believes establish eligibility to vote, shall
33 furnish a copy of the affidavit the voter signed when challenged, a
34 copy of the affidavit signed by the challenger and the identifying
35 document found invalid by the challenger and the district board.
36 The rules of evidence shall not apply to those proceedings. The
37 judge shall grant the application and provide the challenged voter
38 with written authorization to vote on that day if the judge finds the
39 following facts to be established by the testimony of the applicant
40 or, in the case of a dispute of facts or some questions as to the
41 challenged voter's credibility, by a preponderance of the following
42 evidence:

43 a. The challenged voter is at least 18 years old and a citizen of
44 the United States and of this State, has resided in the county at least
45 30 days prior to the date of the election, and has not been convicted
46 of a crime which would disenfranchise a person under the laws of
47 this State, and either:

48 b. The challenged voter is properly registered at his location; or

1 c. The challenged voter was properly registered at his location
2 as of the last election at which the challenged voter voted but has
3 moved to another location within the county since then and in good
4 faith attempted to register at the new address within the time
5 prescribed by law.

6 For the purposes of this section, a good faith attempt to register
7 shall include: completing the prescribed registration form no later
8 than ~~【21】~~ 14 days before the election in the presence of a person
9 who appears to be over 18 years old and says that he or she can and
10 will witness the form and mail it to the register for the applicant;
11 completing a form received in the mail from the commissioner of
12 registration, superintendent of elections or the county board which
13 states that information has been received that the applicant has
14 moved and placing the completed form in a proper mailbox with
15 proper postage, if necessary, no later than ~~【21】~~ 14 days before the
16 election; completing a registration form in any government office;
17 and reasonably relying upon the oral statements of an official at a
18 polling place that they will insure proper reregistration.

19 The judge of the Superior Court having the application shall
20 cause a full record of the proceeding to be taken stenographically,
21 transcribed and filed in the office of the county clerk of the county,
22 which record shall be open and public record. All costs and
23 expenses of such proceedings shall be paid by the county.

24 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.5)
25

26 3. R.S.19:31-2 is amended to read as follows:

27 19:31-2. In all counties having a superintendent of elections, the
28 superintendent of elections is hereby constituted the commissioner
29 of registration and in all other counties the secretary of the county
30 board is hereby constituted the commissioner of registration.

31 The commissioner of registration shall have complete charge of
32 the registration of all eligible voters within their respective
33 counties. Pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of P.L.2005, c.145
34 (C.19:31-32), the commissioner of registration shall be responsible
35 for adding to, deleting from, amending and maintaining the records
36 of persons registered to vote in the commissioner's county
37 contained in the Statewide voter registration system established
38 pursuant to section 1 of that act.

39 The commissioner of registration shall have power to appoint
40 temporarily, and the commissioner of registration in counties of the
41 first class having more than 800,000 inhabitants shall have power to
42 appoint on a permanent, or temporary basis, such number of
43 persons, as in the commissioner's judgment may be necessary in
44 order to carry out the provisions of this Title. All persons appointed
45 by the commissioner of registration in counties of the first class
46 having more than 850,000 inhabitants according to the latest federal
47 decennial census to serve for terms of more than six months in any
48 one year shall be in the career service of the civil service and shall

1 be appointed, and hold their positions, in accordance with the
2 provisions of Title 11A, Civil Service. All persons appointed by
3 the commissioner of registration in counties of the first class having
4 more than 600,000 but less than 850,000 inhabitants according to
5 the latest federal decennial census to serve for terms of more than
6 six months in any one year, other than the chief deputy and chief
7 clerk and confidential secretary and chief custodian, shall be in the
8 career service of the civil service and shall be appointed and hold
9 their positions, in accordance with the provisions of Title 11A, Civil
10 Service. Persons appointed by the commissioner of registration in
11 such counties to serve for terms of six months or less in any one
12 year and persons appointed by the commissioner of registration
13 shall not be subject to any of the provisions of Title 11A, Civil
14 Service, but shall be in the unclassified service.

15 In each county the commissioner of registration shall submit to
16 the **【Attorney General】** Secretary of State on or before February 15
17 of each year a plan providing for evening registration for the
18 primary election and on or before July 1 plans providing for
19 evening registration for the general election, which plans shall be
20 subject to approval by the **【Attorney General】** Secretary of State.
21 Evening registration shall be made available in the office of each
22 commissioner of registration between the hours of 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.
23 on the **【21st】** 14th day preceding the primary and general elections
24 and, in any year in which municipal elections are to be held in any
25 municipality within the county, on the **【21st】** 14th day preceding
26 those municipal elections.

27 In each county, the commissioner of registration may also
28 establish a plan for out-of-office registration, including door-to-
29 door registration.

30 Nothing in this section shall preclude the commissioner from
31 providing pursuant to plan evening registration in excess of the
32 requirements of this section, or shall preclude or in any way limit
33 out-of-office registration conducted by persons or groups other than
34 the commissioner.

35 The commissioner of registration shall provide such printed
36 forms, blanks, supplies and office telephone and transportation
37 equipment as are necessary in the opinion of the commissioner to
38 carry out the provisions of this Title and any amendments or
39 supplements thereto.

40 Subject to the limitations set forth in chapter 32 of this Title, all
41 necessary expenses incurred, as and when certified and approved by
42 the commissioner of registration shall be paid by the county
43 treasurer of the county.

44 Nothing in the provisions of subtitle 2 of the Title,
45 Municipalities and Counties (R.S.40:16-1 et seq.), shall in anywise
46 be construed to affect, restrict or abridge the powers herein
47 conferred on the commissioners of registration of the several
48 counties.

1 All powers granted to the commissioner in all counties not
2 having superintendents of elections by the provisions of this Title
3 are hereby conferred on the county board in such counties and any
4 and all duties conferred upon the commissioner in all counties not
5 having a superintendent of elections by the provisions of this Title
6 shall only be exercised and performed by such commissioner under
7 the instructions and directions of and subject to the approval of the
8 county board of such counties.

9 (cf: P.L. 2005, c.145, s.7)

10
11 4. Section 2 of P.L.1994, c.170 (C.19:31-3.3) is amended to
12 read as follows:

13 2. The commissioner may eliminate the use of the duplicate
14 permanent registration binders and may authorize and direct the use
15 at the polls in place of such a binder, as a signature copy register for
16 the purposes of this Title and Title 40 of the Revised Statutes, of a
17 polling record which identifies on each page the election at which
18 the record is used, which indicates for each registrant the name,
19 address, and date of birth of the registrant and identifies the
20 municipality and the particular election district therein from which
21 the person is registered, and which includes adjacent to the
22 registrant's name and address an imprint of the digitalized image of
23 the registrant's signature and sufficient space, immediately to the
24 left or right of that imprint, for the registrant to sign the record,
25 which imprint and signature shall be used as the signature
26 comparison record as prescribed by this Title. The polling record
27 shall also include for each registrant the registrant's date of birth, an
28 indication of whether the registrant has applied for a mail-in ballot
29 in that election, and a place to indicate whether the registrant has
30 provided identification pursuant to R.S.19:15-17, if such
31 identification is required. The polling record shall also include for
32 each registrant sufficient space for the notation of remarks as
33 provided by R.S.19:15-23 and for the recording of any challenge
34 and the determination thereof by the district board as provided by
35 R.S.19:15-24, or by other elections officials charged with the same
36 duties as the district board in connection with the conduct of an
37 election. In the case of a primary election, the polling record shall
38 also indicate for each registrant the political party, if any, of which
39 the registrant is a member for the purpose of voting at that primary
40 election.

41 Polling records for each election shall be prepared by the
42 commissioner of registration not later than the **【10th】** 8th day
43 preceding the election. At each election, the delivery of the polling
44 records to the municipal clerk and to the district boards or other
45 elections officials charged with the same duties as the district board
46 in connection with the conduct of an election, and the return of
47 those records by the district boards or such other elections officials

1 to the commissioner of registration, shall be made in the manner
2 prescribed by the commissioner.

3 The commissioner of registration shall retain the polling records
4 for any election for a period of not less than six years following that
5 election.

6 (cf: P.L.2009, c.79, s.31)

7

8 5. R.S.19:31-6 is amended to read as follows:

9 19:31-6. Any person qualified to vote in an election shall be
10 entitled to vote in the election if the person shall have registered to
11 vote on or before the ~~【21st】~~ 14th day preceding the election by:

12 a. registering in person at any offices designated by the
13 commissioner of registration for providing and receiving
14 registration forms;

15 b. completing a voter registration form while applying for a
16 motor vehicle driver's license from an agent of the New Jersey
17 Motor Vehicle Commission, as provided for in section 24 of
18 P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2);

19 c. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or having
20 returned thereto a voter registration form received from a voter
21 registration agency, as defined in subsection a. of section 26 of
22 P.L.1994, c.182 (C.19:31-6.11), while applying for services or
23 assistance or seeking a recertification, renewal or change of address
24 at an office of that agency;

25 d. completing and returning to the Secretary of State a voter
26 registration form obtained from a public agency, as defined in
27 subsection a. of section 15 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.3);

28 e. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or having
29 returned thereto a voter registration form received from a door-to-
30 door canvass or mobile registration drive, as provided for in section
31 19 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.7);

32 f. completing and returning to the Secretary of State a federal
33 mail voter registration form, as prescribed in subsection (b) of
34 section 9 of the "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" (42
35 U.S.C. s.1973gg et seq.);

36 g. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or the
37 appropriate county clerk an application for a federal postcard
38 application form to register to vote, as permitted pursuant to the
39 "Overseas Absentee Voting Act" (42 U.S.C. s.1973ff-1 et seq.) and
40 section 4 of P.L.1976, c.23 (C.19:59-4);or

41 h. completing a provisional ballot affirmation statement and
42 voting the provisional ballot in the previous election, if the person
43 who submitted the provisional ballot in that election is determined
44 not to be a registered voter.

45 When the commissioner has designated a place or places other
46 than his office for receiving registrations, the commissioner shall
47 cause to be published a notice in a newspaper circulated in the
48 municipality wherein such place or places of registration shall be

1 located. Such notice shall be published pursuant to R.S.19:12-7.

2 Any office designated by the commissioner of registration for
3 receiving registration forms shall have displayed, in a conspicuous
4 location, registration and voting instructions. These instructions
5 shall be the same as those provided for polling places under
6 R.S.19:9-2 and shall be provided by the commissioner.
7 (cf: P.L.2017, c.39, s.10)

8
9 6. Section 1 of P.L.1966, c.177 (C.19:31-6.1) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 1. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Title to which
12 this act is a supplement, any person authorized by law to accept
13 applications for voter registration shall accept, during the **【20-day】**
14 13-day period prior to any election, the application for registration
15 of all eligible voters who shall personally appear for registration
16 before such person, or the registration card mailed or delivered to
17 such person, but no eligible voter so registered shall be entitled to
18 vote in the election immediately following said **【20-day】** 13-day
19 period. Any person registered under the provisions of this act shall
20 be advised that he will not be eligible to vote in the election
21 immediately forthcoming but will be eligible to vote in elections
22 held thereafter.

23 Applications for registration pursuant to the provisions of this act
24 shall be received at such place or places as may be designated by
25 any duly authorized election official.
26 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.9)

27
28 7. Section 15 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.3) is amended to
29 read as follows:

30 15. a. As used in this section, "public agency" shall mean:

31 The Division of Worker's Compensation, the Division of
32 Employment Services and the Division of Unemployment and
33 Temporary Disability Insurance, established initially by section 5 of
34 P.L.1948, c.446 (C.34:1A-5), in the Department of Labor and
35 Workforce Development;

36 The Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury,
37 continued under section 24 of P.L.1948, c.92 (C.52:18A-24);

38 The New Jersey Transit Corporation, established pursuant to
39 section 4 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-4);

40 Any free county library established under the provisions of
41 article 1 of chapter 33 of Title 40 of the Revised Statutes;

42 Any regional library established under the provisions of
43 P.L.1962, c.134 (C.40:33-13.3 et seq.);

44 Any free public library established under the provisions of article
45 1 of chapter 54 of Title 40 of the Revised Statutes;

46 Any joint free public library established under the provisions of
47 P.L.1959, c.155 (C.40:54-29.3 et seq.);

48 Any public institution of higher education as included under the

1 provisions of N.J.S.18A:62-1;

2 Any eligible institution, as defined by subsection a. of section 3
3 of P.L.1979, c.132 (C.18A:72B-17), that receives financial
4 assistance, aid, or grants from State funds;

5 Any office or commercial establishment where State licenses or
6 permits, other than licenses or permits issued by a professional or
7 occupational board established under the laws of this State, are
8 available to individual members of the public; and

9 Any recruitment office of the New Jersey National Guard.

10 b. Any person entitled to register to vote may register as a
11 voter in the election district in which that person resides at any time
12 prior to the **【21st】 14th** day preceding any election by completing a
13 registration form described in section 16 of P.L.1974, c.30
14 (C.19:31-6.4) and submitting the form to the commissioner of
15 registration of the county wherein the person resides or
16 alternatively, in the case of a registration form provided by the
17 employees or agents of a public agency or a voter registration
18 agency, as defined in subsection a. of section 26 of P.L.1994, c.182
19 (C.19:31-6.11), to those employees or agents or to the **【Attorney**
20 **General】 Secretary of State**. Any registration form addressed to a
21 commissioner of registration may be mailed to or delivered to the
22 office of that commissioner, and in the case of a registration form
23 available at a public agency, the form shall be mailed to the
24 **【Attorney General】 Secretary of State** or delivered to the
25 commissioner of registration in the county of the registrant. A
26 registration form postmarked, stamped or otherwise marked as
27 having been received from the registration applicant, on or before
28 the **【21st】 14th** day preceding any election shall be deemed timely.
29 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.10)

30

31 8. Section 16 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.4) is amended to
32 read as follows:

33 16. a. The Secretary of State shall cause to be prepared and
34 shall provide to each county commissioner of registration forms of
35 size and weight suitable for mailing, which shall require the
36 information required by R.S.19:31-3 in substantially the following
37 form:

38

39 VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

40

41 Print clearly in ink. Use ballpoint pen or marker.

42

43 (1) This form is being used as:

44

45 ☐ New registration

46

47 ☐ Address change

1 [] Name change
2
3 (2) Name:.....
4
5 Last First Middle
6
7 (3) Are you a citizen of the United States of America? []Yes
8 []No
9 (4) Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day? []Yes
10 [] No
11
12 If you checked 'No' in response to either of these questions, do
13 not complete this form.
14
15 (5) Street Address where you live:
16
17
18
19 Street Address Apt. No.
20
21
22
23 (6) City or Town County Zip Code
24
25 (7) Address Where You Receive Your Mail (if different from
26 above):
27
28
29
30 (8) Date of Birth:
31
32
33
34 Month Day Year
35
36 (9) (a) Telephone Number (optional).....
37
38 (b) E-Mail Address (optional).....
39
40 (10) Name and address of Your Last Voter Registration
41
42
43
44
45
46
47

1 (11) If you are registering by mail to vote and will be voting for
2 the first time in your current county of residence, please provide
3 one of the following:

4 (a) your New Jersey driver's license
5 number:.....

6 (b) the last four digits of your Social Security
7 Number.....

8 OR submit with this form a copy of any one of the following
9 documents: a current and valid photo identification card; a current
10 utility bill, bank statement, government check, pay check or any
11 other government or other identifying document that shows your
12 name and current address. If you do not provide either your New
13 Jersey driver's license number or the last four digits of your Social
14 Security Number, or enclose a copy of one of the documents listed
15 above, you will be asked for identification when voting for the first
16 time, unless you are exempt from doing so under federal or State
17 law.

18 (12) Do you wish to declare a political party affiliation?
19 (Optional):

20

21 ☐ YES. Name of Party:

22 ☐ NO. I do not wish to declare a political party affiliation at
23 this time.

24 (13)☐ I wish to receive a Mail-in Ballot for all future elections,
25 until I request otherwise in writing.

26

27 (14)Declaration - I swear or affirm that:

28

29 I am a U.S. citizen.

30 I live at the above address.

31

32 I will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the next
33 election.

34

35 I am not serving a sentence of incarceration due to a conviction
36 for an indictable offense under any federal or State laws.

37

38 I UNDERSTAND THAT ANY FALSE OR FRAUDULENT
39 REGISTRATION MAY SUBJECT ME TO A FINE OF UP TO
40 \$15,000, IMPRISONMENT UP TO FIVE YEARS, OR BOTH
41 PURSUANT TO R.S.19:34-1.

42

43

44

45 Signature or mark of the registrant Date

1 (15) If applicant is unable to complete this form, print the name
2 and address of individual who completed this form.

3
4

5
6 Name

7
8

9
10 Address

11
12 In addition, the form may include notice to the applicant of
13 information and options relating to the registration and voting
14 process, including but not limited to notice of qualifications
15 required of a registered voter; notice of the final day by which a
16 person must be registered to be eligible to vote in an election;
17 notice of the effect of a failure to provide required identification
18 information; a place at which the applicant may indicate availability
19 for service as a member of the district board of elections; a place at
20 which the applicant may indicate whether he or she requires a
21 polling place which is accessible to individuals with disabilities and
22 the elderly or whether he or she is legally blind; a place at which
23 the applicant may indicate a desire to receive additional information
24 concerning voting by mail; and if the application indicates a
25 political party affiliation, the voter is permitted to vote in the
26 primary election of a political party other than the political party in
27 which the voter was affiliated previously only if the voter
28 registration form with the change of political party affiliation is
29 filed prior to the 50th day next preceding the primary election. The
30 form may also include a space for the voter registration agency to
31 record whether the applicant registered in person, by mail or by
32 other means.

33 b. The reverse side of the registration form shall bear the
34 address of the Secretary of State or the commissioner of registration
35 to whom such form is supplied, and a United States postal permit
36 the charges upon which shall be paid by the State.

37 c. The Secretary of State shall cause to be prepared registration
38 forms of the size, weight and form described in subsection a. of this
39 section in both the English and Spanish language and shall provide
40 such forms to each commissioner of registration of any county in
41 which there is at least one election district in which bilingual
42 sample ballots must be provided pursuant to R.S.19:14-21,
43 R.S.19:49-4 or section 2 of P.L.1965, c.29 (C.19:23-22.4).

44 d. The commissioner of registration shall furnish such
45 registration forms upon request in person to any person or
46 organization in such reasonable quantities as such person or
47 organization shall request. The commissioner shall furnish no fewer

1 than two such forms to any person upon request by mail or by
2 telephone.

3 e. Each such registration form shall have annexed thereto
4 instructions specifying the manner and method of registration, and
5 the vote by mail option specified on the form, and stating the
6 qualifications for an eligible voter.

7 f. The Secretary of State shall also furnish such registration
8 forms and such instructions to the Director of the Division of
9 Workers' Compensation, the Director of the Division of
10 Employment Services, and the Director of the Division of
11 Unemployment and Temporary Disability Insurance in the
12 Department of Labor and Workforce Development; to the Director
13 of the Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury; to
14 the Executive Director of the New Jersey Transit Corporation; to
15 the appropriate administrative officer of any other public agency, as
16 defined by subsection a. of section 15 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-
17 6.3); to the Adjutant General of the Department of Military and
18 Veterans' Affairs; and to the chief administrative officer of any
19 voter registration agency, as defined in subsection a. of section 26
20 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.19:31-6.11).

21 g. All registration forms received by the Secretary of State in
22 the mail or forwarded to the Secretary of State shall be forwarded to
23 the commissioner of registration in the county of the registrant.
24 Each such form, and any registration form received otherwise by a
25 commissioner of registration, shall be forwarded to the county clerk
26 if the vote by mail option is selected on a form.

27 h. An application to register to vote received from the New
28 Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission or a voter registration agency, as
29 defined in subsection a. of section 26 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.19:31-
30 6.11), shall be deemed to have been timely made for the purpose of
31 qualifying an eligible applicant as registered to vote in an election if
32 the date on which the commission or agency shall have received
33 that document in completed form, as indicated in the lower right
34 hand corner of the form, was not later than the **【21st】** 14th day
35 preceding that election.

36 i. Each commissioner of registration shall make note in the
37 permanent registration file of each voter who is required to provide
38 the personal identification information required pursuant to this
39 section, as amended, and R.S.19:15-17, R.S.19:31-5 and Pub.L.107-
40 252 (42 U.S.C.s. 15301 et seq.), to indicate the type of
41 identification provided by the voter and the date on which it is
42 provided. **【Prior to the June 2004 primary election, when such a**
43 **newly registered voter seeks to vote for the first time following his**
44 **or her registration, the voter will be required to provide such**
45 **personal identification information.】** Beginning with the June 2004
46 primary election, when such a newly registered voter seeks to vote
47 for the first time following his or her registration, the voter will not
48 be required to provide such information if he or she had previously

1 provided the personal identification information required pursuant
2 to this section. The required information shall be collected and
3 stored for the time and in the manner required pursuant to
4 regulations promulgated by the Secretary of State.

5 j. The Secretary of State shall amend the voter registration
6 application form if necessary to conform to the requirements of
7 applicable federal or State law.

8 k. In the event that the name of any political party entered on
9 the voter registration form by a voter who wishes to declare a
10 political party affiliation is not legible, the commissioner of
11 registration shall mail the voter a political party declaration form
12 and a letter explaining that the voter's choice was not understood
13 and that the voter should complete and return the declaration form
14 in order to be affiliated with a party.

15 (cf: P.L.2019, c.270, s.3)

16
17 9. R.S.19:31-7 is amended to read as follows:

18 19:31-7. For the convenience of the voters the respective
19 municipal clerks or their duly authorized clerk or clerks in all
20 municipalities shall also be empowered to register applicants for
21 permanent registration up to and including the **【21st】** 14th day
22 preceding any election and after any such election in the manner
23 indicated above, subject to such rules and regulations as may be
24 prescribed by the commissioner, in counties having a
25 superintendent of elections, and the county board in all other
26 counties. Duly authorized clerk as used in this section shall mean a
27 clerk who resides within the municipality and has been approved by
28 the commissioner or the county board as the case may be. For this
29 purpose the commissioner shall forward to each municipal clerk a
30 sufficient supply of registration forms. The commissioners shall
31 keep a record of the serial numbers of these forms and shall
32 periodically make such checks as are necessary to accurately
33 determine if all such forms are satisfactorily accounted for. Each
34 municipal clerk shall transmit daily to the commissioner all of the
35 filled out registration forms that he may have in his office at the
36 time.

37 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.12)

38
39 10. R.S.19:31-11 is amended to read as follows:

40 19:31-11. a. In all counties within the State, change of
41 residence notices shall be made by a written request, signed by the
42 registrant, forwarded to the commissioner by mail, and actually
43 received by the commissioner, or by calling in person at the office
44 of the commissioner or the municipal clerk. The commissioner
45 shall provide change of residence notices in card form for the use of
46 any registered voter moving to another address within the same
47 election district or to another election district within the same
48 county. Copies of these notices shall also be available at the office

1 of the municipal clerk in each municipality. Each municipal clerk
2 shall transmit daily to the commissioner all the filled out change of
3 residence notices that may be in the municipal clerk's office at the
4 time. These notices shall be printed upon cards, shall contain a
5 blank form showing where the applicant last resided and the address
6 and exact location to which the applicant has moved and shall have
7 a line for the applicant's signature, printed name and date of birth.
8 Upon receipt of such change of residence notice the commissioner
9 shall cause the signature to be compared with the registration forms
10 of the applicant and, if such signature appears to be of and by one
11 and the same legal voter, the commissioner shall cause the entry of
12 the change of residence to be made on those registration forms and
13 the registrant shall thereupon be qualified to vote in the election
14 district to which the registrant shall have so moved. If the
15 commissioner is not satisfied as to the signature on the request for a
16 change of residence, a confirmation notice as prescribed by
17 subsection d. of R.S.19:31-15 shall be sent by mail with postage
18 prepaid to the registrant at the new address.

19 The application for change of residence shall be filed with the
20 commissioner or municipal clerk, as the case may be, on or before
21 the **【21st】** 14th day preceding any election.

22 b. In any county any voter who, prior to an election, shall move
23 within the same county after the time above prescribed for filing an
24 application for change of residence without having made
25 application for change of residence, or who has not returned a
26 confirmation notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of
27 registration of the county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter,
28 or who has not moved since the previous election but whose
29 registration information is missing or otherwise deficient, or has
30 otherwise failed to notify the commissioner of registration of the
31 voter's change of address within the county, shall be permitted to
32 vote in that election in the district to which the voter has moved,
33 upon making a written affirmation regarding the change of address
34 at the polling place of the district in which the voter resides on the
35 day of the election. No identifying document shall be required from
36 the voter for this affirmation. A district board member shall
37 provide the voter with a provisional ballot, and an envelope with an
38 affirmation statement that conforms with the requirements for such
39 documents contained in subsection b. of section 7 of P.L.1999,
40 c.232 (C.19:53C-1). The voter shall complete the provisional ballot
41 and affirmation statement, place the ballot in the envelope, seal and
42 return it to the district board member. The board member shall
43 review the information in the affirmation statement for
44 completeness before forwarding it for inspection, tabulation and
45 notation by the county board of elections, as provided for by
46 sections 7 through 26 of P.L.1999, c.232 (C.19:53C-1 through
47 C.19:53C-20). The affirmation statement shall constitute a transfer
48 to the registrant's new residence for any subsequent election.

1 However, if the voter has moved from one residence to another
2 within the same election district at any time, the voter shall be
3 permitted to vote in such election district at any election in the same
4 manner as other voters at the polling place upon written affirmation
5 by the registrant to the district board member of the registrant's
6 change of address.

7 c. A voter who moves from an election district in one county to
8 an election district in another county prior to the close of
9 registration preceding an election shall register in the new county of
10 residence, in accordance with the provisions of R.S.19:31-6, in
11 order to be permitted to vote.

12 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.13)

13
14 11. R.S.19:31-13 is amended to read as follows:

15 19:31-13. Whenever the registrant after his or her original
16 registration shall change his or her name due to marriage, divorce,
17 or by judgment of court, the registrant shall in person or by mail
18 submit to the commissioner of registration a written statement
19 notifying the commissioner of the change, which statement shall
20 take such form, and be printed on a postal card suitable for mailing
21 of such design, as the **【Attorney General】** Secretary of State shall
22 prescribe and shall be signed by the registrant. The commissioner,
23 upon receipt of such a notice of change of name, shall revise
24 accordingly the name of the registrant as it appears among the items
25 of information concerning the registrant included on the registrant's
26 registration forms, shall make a photographic copy of the notice of
27 name change submitted by the registrant, and shall affix the original
28 notice so submitted to the registrant's original registration form and
29 the photographic copy of that notice to the registrant's duplicate
30 registration record.

31 When notice of such change in name has not been received by or
32 filed with the commissioner prior to the **【21st】** 14th day preceding
33 any election, such person may be permitted to vote under the name
34 under which the person was registered prior to that change at the
35 first election following such change in name at which the person
36 shall appear to vote, after signing the signature copy register with
37 both the registered name and his or her new name. The
38 commissioner shall then revise accordingly the name of the
39 registrant as it appears on the registrant's registration forms, make a
40 photographic copy of the notice, and affix the original and copy of
41 the notice to the registrant's permanent registration forms as
42 hereinabove prescribed.

43 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.14)

44
45 12. R.S.19:31-15 is amended to read as follows:

46 19:31-15. a. Upon receipt by the commissioner of registration
47 of a county from a registered voter of that county of a request that
48 the name of the registrant be removed from the Statewide voter

1 registration system, the commissioner shall so remove the
2 registrant's name. Notice by a registered voter to the commissioner
3 of registration of a county that the registrant has ceased to reside in
4 the State shall, for the purposes of this subsection, be deemed a
5 request for removal of the registrant's name from the Statewide
6 voter registration system.

7 b. The commissioner of registration of any county may agree
8 with the United States Postal Service or its licensee to receive
9 information provided by the Postal Service concerning the change
10 by any Postal Service customer of that customer's address within
11 the county. If it appears from information so received that a Postal
12 Service customer registered to vote in the county has moved to a
13 different address, then (1) if that address is within the county, the
14 commissioner shall cause the registration records of the registrant to
15 be corrected accordingly and shall transmit to the resident by
16 forwardable mail a notice of the change and a postage prepaid, pre-
17 addressed return form by which the registrant may verify or correct
18 the address information, or (2) if that address is not within the
19 county, the commissioner shall undertake the confirmation notice
20 procedure prescribed under subsection d. of this section to confirm
21 the change of address.

22 c. The commissioner of registration of a county shall cause the
23 name of a registrant to be removed from the Statewide voter
24 registration system if the registrant (1) confirms in writing, by
25 return of a confirmation notice as prescribed under subsection d. of
26 this section or by other means, that the registrant has changed
27 residence to a place outside the State, or (2) has either not notified
28 the commissioner or failed to respond to a confirmation notice as so
29 prescribed and has not, in any election during the period beginning
30 on the date on which the commissioner sends the confirmation
31 notice to the registrant and ending on the day after the second
32 general election for federal office following that date on which the
33 notice is sent, (a) voted, or (b) appeared to vote in any county and,
34 if necessary, correct the official record of the registrant's address.

35 Other than as provided under subsection a. of this section, the
36 name of a registrant shall not be removed from the Statewide voter
37 registration system on the ground that the registrant has changed
38 residence except as provided by this subsection.

39 d. A confirmation notice sent to ascertain whether a registrant
40 continues to reside at the address from which that registrant is
41 registered to vote shall be a postage prepaid and pre-addressed
42 return card, sent by forwardable mail, which shall include: (1)
43 space on which the registrant's current address may be entered; (2)
44 the statement "To any voter who continues to reside at the residence
45 address to which this notice is addressed or who no longer resides at
46 that residence address but continues to reside in..... (name
47 of county): please mail or personally deliver this postage prepaid
48 card to the commissioner of registration to whom it is addressed not

1 later than..... (calendar date of the **【21st】** 14th day
 2 preceding the next election to be held in the county). If you do not
 3 return this card by that date, then at any election held subsequent to
 4 that date and on or before..... (calendar date of the day after
 5 the second general election for federal office following that date),
 6 you may be required at the polls to affirm or confirm your address
 7 before you are permitted to vote, and if you do not vote in an
 8 election during that period, your name will be removed from the
 9 registry of eligible voters."; and (3) a statement, the text of which
 10 shall be prescribed by the **【Attorney General】** Secretary of State,
 11 setting forth the means by which a registrant who has changed
 12 residence to a county different from that in which is located the
 13 residence to which the notice was originally addressed may retain
 14 the right to vote.

15 e. The commissioner of registration shall correct the registry
 16 list of eligible voters in accordance with change of residence
 17 information obtained in conformity with the provisions of this
 18 section.

19 (cf: P.L.2005, c.145, s.12)

20

21 13. R.S.19:31-18 is amended to read as follows:

22 19:31-18. On or before the **【eighth】** fifth day preceding any
 23 general election the commissioner shall certify and transmit to the
 24 county clerk a complete list of all persons who are registered in
 25 each election district in each municipality in the county together
 26 with a statement as to the number of persons registered in each
 27 district. The list of registered voters shall include only the
 28 following information for each registered voter: name, address,
 29 date of birth, political party affiliation, and voting history. Except
 30 when so ordered by a court, the list of registered voters shall not
 31 include voter signatures. The list shall be drawn from the Statewide
 32 voter registration system, established pursuant to section 1 of
 33 P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-31). It shall in figures state the total
 34 number of names of persons registered. Such lists shall be arranged
 35 substantially in the following form: Grand Street

36

37	Residence number	Name of voter
38	or other designation	

39	14	Jones, Charles M.
----	----	-------------------

40	15	Smith, John M.
----	----	----------------

41 (cf: P.L.2005, c.145, s.13)

42

43 14. R.S.19:31-20 is amended to read as follows:

44 19:31-20. On or before the **【eighth】** fifth day preceding the
 45 primary election for the general election and the general election,
 46 respectively, the commissioner in counties not having a
 47 superintendent of elections, shall deliver to the municipal clerk in
 48 each municipality the signature copy registers for each election

1 district in such municipality and shall take a receipt for same. The
2 municipal clerk shall thereupon deliver at his office, or in any other
3 way he sees fit, such registers to a member or members of the
4 proper district boards at the same time and together with the
5 primary for the general election sample ballots or the general
6 election sample ballots, as the case may be. The registers shall be
7 used by the district boards on election days and for the purpose of
8 mailing the sample ballots. The commissioner in counties having a
9 superintendent of elections shall deliver such registers at his office,
10 or in any other way he may see fit, to the various district boards,
11 taking a receipt for same.

12 Before delivering the registers the commissioner shall cause to
13 be printed upon a separate sheet or sheets of paper, to be inserted
14 inside of the front cover of such registers in conspicuous type, such
15 instructions to election officers regarding the use and disposition of
16 the binders and forms as he deems necessary.

17 (cf: P.L.2011, c.134, s.41)

18

19 15. This act shall take effect on January 1 next following
20 enactment, except that the Secretary of State and the county
21 commissioners of registration may take such anticipatory action as
22 may be needed to effectuate the purposes of this act.

23

24

25 STATEMENT

26

27 Currently, a person eligible to vote is required to register at least
28 21 days prior to an election in order to vote in that election. This
29 bill would provide that a person eligible to vote may register up to
30 14 days prior to an election and vote in that election.

31 The bill would not affect the constitutional requirement that a
32 person must reside in a county for 30 days prior to an election in
33 order to be eligible to vote in that election.